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## United States Senate

December 14, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu  
Secretary of Energy  
United States of America  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20585

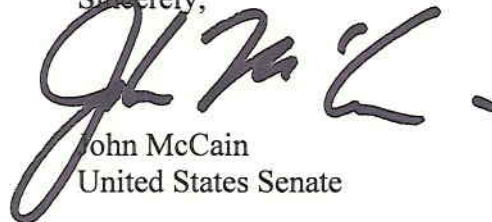
Dear Mr. Secretary:

I want to take this opportunity to express concerns I have regarding our nation's nuclear policy and Yucca Mountain.

It has recently been reported that the Department of Energy is pursuing its license application to build the nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain despite the fact that President Obama has made clear that it is no longer a viable option. The \$197 million appropriated for the license application is a fraction of \$8 billion spent to study and develop the Yucca Mountain site; nonetheless it is a significant sum that should not be wasted on attorney fees to defend a project the President has no intention to support or ultimately complete. Wasting these funds at any time, but especially in light of the historic deficits our nation faces is unacceptable.

It is my hope that you will advise the President to return this money to the Treasury due to his stated intent not to pursue Yucca Mountain as an option for long-term nuclear waste storage.

Sincerely,



John McCain  
United States Senate

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